



JFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Kuniyuki KAJITA, et al. Art Unit: 2613  
Appln. No.: 09/744,812 Exr. J. Pezzlo  
Filed: January 30, 2001  
For: INTERLEAVE APPARATUS AND INTERLEAVE METHOD

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action of September 15, 2004, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in light of the following remarks.

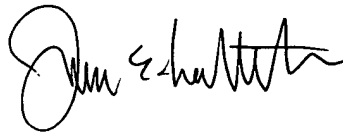
The sole rejection is of claims 1-10 under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Tong et al. (USPN 6,732,316).

This reference has an effective date of March 20, 2000 which is antedated by the present priority date of June 10, 1999. Submitted herewith is an English translation of the Japanese priority application to overcome this rejection. Thus, even if this reference were otherwise effective, it is not a proper reference due to its date.

A notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: December 15, 2004

James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

JEL/att

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